in the Kottayam hospital. As the construction of a permanent building may take some time, orders have been issued for the erection of two temporary sheds. That will serve to remove the grievance. The question of a pucca building for the hospital will be considered.]

### 64. Sanitation in Trivandrum.

MR. S. EASWARAMURTHIA PILLAI (*Trading Classes*) *Trivandrum*) said that there were several slums within the Trivandrum town, to which the Government's attention had not been drawn. Their existence was a constant menace to the health of the people. The illiterate men living in the slum areas had not yet learnt the laws of hygiene and sanitation.

Notwithstanding everything that the Municipality had done, the town of Trivandrum had become the breeding ground of some of the most dreadful diseases which, besides claiming young victims, created a generation of citizens who were unhealthy, deformed, inactive and dull. The slums were partly responsible for that state of affairs. Government were trying to grapple with the situation ; but there was no use in treating the symptoms when the cause escaped notice. Government should issue orders to the Municipality to acquire the slums and other congested areas and to make arrangements for the insanitary and unhealthy buildings being replaced by model buildings fit for human beings to live in.

The drainage system of the Trivandrum town had been a subject of representation in several sessions of the Assembly. But Government had done nothing in the matter. The spread of elephantiasis, the attacks of typhoid fever, the breeding of mosquitoes, the poison arising from the gutters and the accumulation of the contents of drains in the Kuriathi paddy fields were facts which no officer of the Government cared to look into. The Dewan should visit the northern boundary of the Kuriathi fields and witness the condition of that locality. It was said that, with the introduction of the pipewater scheme, further drainage work would be undertaken. As the matter concerned the life of the population, no time should be lost for bringing about a radical change in the condition of the locality. A cistern should be constructed in the centre of the field mentioned above, where the contents of the drains might accumulate and where by a process of chlorination they might be converted into manure for the use of the Agricultural Department. If that could not be done, the contents of the drains should be evacuated into the sea near Valiathurai by the aid of pumps.

A number of merchants, pedestrians and others were using the narrow lane running close behind the shops at Chalai to the Elavania village as a public urinal. That lane and the lane to the east of the royal stables which was used as a latrine were true specimens of the result of sanitary negligence. There was need for one hundred urinals in those localities and they should be constructed before the completion of the Chackai– Thampanoor Railway extension scheme.

About two years ago, the Chalai road was spramexed ; but it soon developed cracks and ruts. Thereupon, blocks of tar were removed and the ruts filled with rubble and sand. The clouds of dust that incessantly rose from the road affected the health of pedestrians and the merchants doing business on either side. Before the monsoon of 1106, the road should be spramexed again.

The Putharikandam grounds should be converted into a park and recreation ground.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Easwaramurthia Pillai. Your suggestions for the improvement of the health of the town, I daresay, deserve consideration. You might have yourself listened to some of the representations which were made here by some members, about the way in which Government is said to be lavishing its income upon one favourite town. It is not that I agree with the view of the members who made that representation, but that the representatives of the Trivandrum town who come up to Government with prayers should remember the other side of the question also. This is one of the premier municipalities in the State ; and it is rather sad that every one of these prayers of yours should be made to the Government and none of them to the municipality whose primary duty it is to look after the health and sanitation of the town. Having said so much, I may tell you that I do not want you to go away with the impression that the Government are not going to pay any attention to these matters. I merely want the people of the town to remember that it is the duty of the municipality also to look after the health of the people and not to leave everything to Government.

The question of the slums is one that the municipality should take up. As I had occassion to tell the members of the last Assembly in answer to the member who represented the Trivandrum Municipality, it is for the municipality to start this work, that is, to take up such questions and where they find that any particular matter cannot be dealt with by them on account of financial difficulties, then it is up to them to make proposals to Government and ask for grants. Government may in certain circumstances help them with grants or loans. But if the people of the town think that the municipality is not responsible in the matter and the whole thing rests upon Government alone, that is a very wrong notion. Your other points will receive attention.

### 65. Reform of the Ayurveda Department.

MR. K. NEELACANTAN VAIDYAN (*Municipal Council, Quilon*) spekaing in Malayalam said that climatic conditions in India and the occupation, mode of living, diet, etc. of its people were peculiar. Hence the science of Ayurveda or the indigenous system of medical aid was more suited to the people of the country than the medical science of the west. The triumph of the Allopathic system in previous years was due mainly to surgery. But in all other respects, the Ayurvedic system was far superior. According to the Administration Report of the State for 1105, 96 per cent, of the patients treated under that system were cured.